

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 640
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ron Martin of Warren County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Clarence Ronald "Ron" Martin of Warren County; and

WHEREAS, Ron Martin was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a longtime educator, most recently Ron Martin had served with acumen and alacrity as Director of Adult Education with the Warren County School System, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a kind and gentle man, Ron was the son of Houston and Bernie Gribble Martin; he attended McMinnville City High School and was a 1973 graduate of David Lipscomb University; and

WHEREAS, he began his career as an educator at Eastside Elementary where he worked as a remedial reading teacher before transferring to Viola Elementary to teach and serve as Principal; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, he accepted a position as an education specialist with the Tennessee Department of Education which he held until 1983 when he returned to Viola Elementary for one year before being named Assistant Principal of Warren County Senior High; and

WHEREAS, in 1987 upon the sudden death of then-Superintendent John Brock, Ron Martin was chosen by the Warren County Commission to fill the unexpired term; Ron Martin would win election to a full term as superintendent in 1988; and

WHEREAS, not seeking reelection in 1992, Ron Martin accepted the challenge of leading Warren County School's Adult Education initiative which during his tenure helped thousands of adults earn their GED and further their education; and

WHEREAS, Ron Martin's excellence in education was recognized by his peers and his community by his receipt of numerous awards and accolades. He served as President of the Tennessee Commission on Adult Basic Education in 1998-99, was Young Educator of the Year in 1976, Warren County 4-H Leader of the Year 1974-76 and received a Leadership Award from the Tennessee Academy of School Leaders in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Ron Martin was an active and devout member of the Church of Christ preaching the Gospel at numerous churches since the 1960's and had been serving as Minister for Unity Church of Christ since 1988; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, he enjoyed the loving companionship of wife, Carolyn J. Martin, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, a man involved in his community, Ron Martin served as an announcer and news reporter for Cumberland Valley Broadcasting for over 30 years, and shared his time and talents with the Warren County Democratic Party, the Kiwanis Club and was a longtime supporter of the Boy Scouts of America where he served on the Eagle Scout review committee; in honor of his contributions he was recognized as the Volunteer of the Year last year by the Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Ron Martin leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Clarence Ronald "Ron" Martin, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Martin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.